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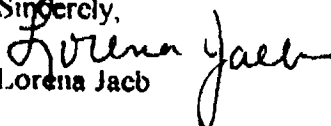
January 9, 2002

Renata Hesse
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I am writing in regards to the antitrust case against Microsoft. I am pleased to hear that a settlement has been reached that will build new relationships between Microsoft and other technology companies. That connection will provide the marketplace with even more new and innovative products. As a longtime business owner, a mother and grandmother, I can remember the days when one had to communicate via phone or through U.S. Postal Service only. I also remember when one had to write checks and present them only in person to get cash, or had to go to the library to do literally all of one's research. Most of us including my children and grandchildren can't imagine life without e-mail, ATM machines or the Internet because we rely on these things everyday to make our lives easier. Microsoft has certainly aided in providing the necessary tools for us to run our business, communicate with friends and family who are far away, and also to educate future generations.

Microsoft has gone one step further in today's world of technology that will greatly affect our families. Microsoft is working together with DIRECTV & Ultimate TV to change the way we watch television. We will be able to watch or record two live shows at the same time and then view them whenever our schedule permits. This also allows parents to better monitor what their children watch on television and at the same time allows parents to watch their shows. Not only has Microsoft changed the way we watch television, but we are now able to "surf" web sites on the internet, check e-mail and participate in educational programs with our children all at the same time! We can now work from home and spend quality time with our family. Microsoft has extended to many people like me the benefits that will serve my family for years to come. The settlement is a refreshing change in today's seemingly bleak times.

Sincerely,


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MTC-00031435_0001